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Transmitted herewith for filing is a patent application of:

For: **DIAGNOSTIC ARCHITECTURE USING FPGA CORE IN SYSTEM ON A CHIP DESIGN**

1. ☒ Specification (18 pages); Claims (6 pages); Abstract (1 page)
2. ☒ 6 sheets of formal drawings.
3. ☒ Oath or Declaration Total Pages 3
 - a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)
 - b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Item 5 completed)
 - c. ☐ Copy of Revocation of Previous Power
4. ☐ Incorporation By Reference (usable if Item 3b is checked)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Item 3b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
5. ☐ If a Continuing Application, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP)
of prior application no.:
6. ☒ An assignment to LSI LOGIC CORPORATION, along with PTO form 1595.
7. ☐ A PTO Form 1449 with a copy of the references not previously cited.
8. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
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	No. Filed	No. Extra	Fee	Amount
Basic Fee	--	--	--	\$710.00
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SUB-TOTAL \$836.00

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X Assignment Recordal Fee (\$40.00) \$ 40.00

TOTAL \$876.00

X A check in the amount of \$876.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper or associated with this filing to Deposit Account No. 50-0541. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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DIAGNOSTIC ARCHITECTURE USING FPGA

CORE IN SYSTEM ON A CHIP DESIGN

Field of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to a method and/or architecture for a Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) core generally and, more particularly, to a diagnostic method and/or architecture using an FPGA core in a system on a chip (SOC) design.

10 Background of the Invention

15 A number of conventional approaches to chip design include (i) directly connecting internal signals to chip I/O pins using multiple layers of multiplexers; (ii) reading on-chip readable registers through host interfaces; (iii) running resistor-transistor logic (RTL) simulations to create special cases to find bugs and verify a fixed solution; and (iv) using emulators to verify the design.

20 The first conventional approach is limited by the number of the chip I/O pins that can be used to access the internal signals. For example, with 2 layers of 8 to 1 multiplexers, up to

00-255
1496.00039

8 signals are needed to be probed simultaneously, totaling 3+3+8=14 I/O pins that are needed for the design. With chip gate counts over 1 million gates, good coverage is difficult to achieve with such an approach.

5 The second conventional approach can only capture a snapshot of the on-chip readable registers. While such an approach can be helpful in identifying the existence of a bug, it does not offer enough information to precisely locate the bug. Additionally, special effort is needed in the design phase to organize all of the registers.

10 The third conventional approach can access all the chip internal signals, but has drawbacks. First, such an approach is a software simulation approach that is very time consuming. The simulation speed is usually thousands of times slower than the real system. Second, since such an approach is a software simulation method, it cannot reflect all the factors in the real system. Third, some bugs may not be uncovered with the RTL simulation method because of the running time limitation or the difficulty in creating the simulation case.

15 The fourth conventional approach can run at a speed up to 1 MHz. However, the emulator is very expensive (i.e., about \$1 per

00-255
1496.00039

gate). Implementing such an emulator is not easily accomplished. Additionally, the verification cost can be very high.

Therefore, it would be desirable to provide a system for chip design that would minimize the drawbacks associated with conventional systems.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention concerns a system for designing an integrated circuit (IC). The system generally comprising a circuit and a programmable portion used for diagnostics and finding bugs. The circuit generally comprises (i) a functional portion and (ii) a logic portion that may be connected to the functional portion. The logic portion generally includes one or more interfaces. The programmable portion may be configured to detect, correct and/or diagnose errors in the logic portion through the one or more interfaces.

The objects, features and advantages of the present invention include providing a method and/or architecture for implementing a diagnostic architecture using an FPGA core in a system on-chip design that may (i) ease bringing up, verification and debugging by providing interconnection and programming options;

00-255
1496.00039

(ii) observe important signals while the chip is running under a normal mode; (iii) run at a single step mode while under the control of the FPGA core; (iv) display appropriate signals on a debugging workstation, allowing many debugging features to be supported such as: (a) triggering and tracing based on internal signals, (b) dynamically changing host register values and (c) providing complex monitoring functions, since the FPGA is programmed; (v) reduce debugging/verification time and/or (vi) improve product time to market.

Brief Description of the Drawings

These and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following detailed description and the appended claims and drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a preferred embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a more detailed block diagram of the present invention;

FIG. 3 is an even more detailed block diagram of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a timing diagram illustrating an exemplary operation of the present invention;

FIG. 5 is an example of an implementation of the present invention on a chip; and

FIG. 6 is another implementation of the present invention.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

With the exponential increase of the number of transistors integrated on a single chip, diagnostics of the chip becomes more and more challenging. Better accessibility to internal signals of the chip is highly demanded.

The present invention implements an FPGA core as an embedded Field Programmable Gate Array core that may be used to enable logic to be programmed after the silicon has been produced. The FPGA core can be used to implement on-chip diagnostics to enable debugging functions, such as bus monitoring, probing, single step running, triggering, capturing, etc. One example of such an FPGA may be found in co-pending application Serial No. 09/464,741, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Referring to FIG. 1, a diagram of a system 100 is shown in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention. The system 100 generally comprises an FPGA core and logic block (or circuit) 102 and a debugging workstation block (or circuit) 104. The circuit 102 may be implemented as a single chip or integrated circuit (IC). Additionally, the debugging workstation 104 generally works in combination with the FPGA core and logic block 102.

The system 100 generally allows for design of an integrated circuit (IC). The circuit 102 generally comprises a functional portion that varies with design and a logic portion connected to the functional portion (to be discussed in connection with FIGS. 2 and 3). The logic portion generally includes one or more interfaces that may be coupled to the debugging circuit 104. The debugging circuit 104 may be configured to detect errors in the logic portion through the one or more interfaces.

Referring to FIG. 2, a more detailed block diagram of the FPGA core and logic block 102 is shown. The FPGA core and logic block 102 generally comprises a register portion 110, a logic portion 112, a register portion 114, an FPGA core portion 116 and a control portion 118. The FPGA core 116 may be implemented to

00-255
1496.00039

control the chip 102. The register portion 110 generally comprises a number of register blocks 120a-120n. The register portion 114 generally comprises a number of register blocks 122a-122n. The logic block 112 generally comprises a combinational logic block (or circuit) 130, an I/O block (or circuit) 132 and a multiplexer circuit 134. A particular implementation of the multiplexer 134 may be varied in order to meet the criteria of a particular implementation.

The register block 110 may communicate with the FPGA core 116 through a bus 140 and a bus 142. Similarly, the register block 114 may also communicate with the FPGA core 116 through a bus 144 and a bus 146. The buses 140, 142, 144 and 146 may be implemented, in one example, as multi-bit buses. However, the buses 140, 142, 144 and 146 may also be implemented as single bit buses, if appropriate. Additionally, the buses 140, 142, 144 and 146 may also be implemented as bidirectional buses.

The FPGA core 116 may also communicate with the control block 118 through a bus 148. The FPGA core 116 may communicate through a number of I/O pins (e.g., I/O_PINS) over a bus 150. The FPGA core 116 may also communicate with the debugging workstation 104 through a bus 152. The buses 148, 150 and 152 may be

00-255
1496.00039

implemented as single bit buses or multi-bit buses. Additionally, the buses 148, 150 and 152 may be implemented as bidirectional buses.

The system 100 may provide a chip diagnostics architecture by implementing the FPGA core 116. By using the FPGA core 116 to implement such chip diagnostics, simultaneous probing of internal signals can be achieved while the system 100 is running under predetermined conditions (e.g., a normal mode of operation). Additionally, a process may be implemented to allow the FPGA core 116 to collect data from the registers 120a-120n and 122a-122n using a scan chain, while the system 100 is running under predetermined conditions (e.g., a step mode configuration) controlled by the FPGA core 116.

With the FPGA core 116 running at a speed much faster than a clock of the system 100, data collecting from the internal signals can be done while the system 100 is running in the normal mode. For example, in consumer products, devices typically only run at 27 MHz, while the FPGA core 116 can operate at as fast as 200 MHz to 400 MHz, or even higher. The FPGA core 116 can be programed to simultaneously probe multiple internal signals that are connected to the I/O block 132 while the system 100 is running

00-255
1496.00039

at a normal operational speed. After the data is collected and compressed, the data will be sent to the debugging workstation 104. The waveforms of the internal signals under probing can be displayed as if they are directly connected to a logic analyzer by internal wires (via the debugging workstation 104).

The FPGA core 116 may be implemented to support up to 1K of I/O data. Therefore, up to 1K of internal signal probing can be supported simply by directly connecting the signals to the I/O_PINS of the FPGA core 116. Multiplexing (e.g., through the multiplexer 134) may also be implemented to increase an amount of I/O data. For example, if 2 layers of 8 to 1 multiplexers are used, up to 64K of internal signal probing may be supported. Additionally, multiplexers may allow the circuit 100 to drastically reduce the number of internal connection wires. The particular number of I/Os supported by the FPGA core 116 as well as the particular number of multiplexers may be varied to meet the design criteria of a particular implementation.

By controlling the system clock, the FPGA core 116 may also be programed to run the system 100 in a single step mode. By utilizing the scan chain under the single step mode, the FPGA core 116 may collect data from the register blocks 110 and 114

00-255
1496.00039

implemented on the system 100. Since the scan chain is usually very long (e.g., several thousands of registers per scan chain), the scan chain may be separated into small segments to speed up data collection.

5 Referring to FIG. 3, a diagram illustrating the breaking of a scan chain into segments is shown. The scan chain implementation of the circuit 102 generally comprises a multiplexer logic block (or circuit) 160 and a scan chain segment block (or circuit) 162. The multiplexer logic block 160 generally comprises a number of multiplexers 164a-164n. The scan chain segment block 162 generally comprises a number of multiplexers 166a-166n and a number of scan chain segments (e.g., SCAN_SEG0, SCAN_SEG1 ... SCAN_SEGX). The scan chain segments may allow the FPGA core 116 select and collect register data more quickly.

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15 FIG. 4 shows the timing relationship between a system clock signal (e.g., SYS_CLK) and a clock signal (e.g., DIAG_CLK). The clock signal DIAG_CLK may be implemented as a diagnostic clock. The FPGA core 116 may control the diagnostic clock signal DIAG_CLK. The system clock signal SYS_CLK may be implemented during the normal mode. The diagnostic clock signal DIAG_CLK may be implemented during the single step mode. Both the clock signal

00-255
1496.00039

SYS_CLK and the clock signal DIAG_CLK are derived from the FPGA core 116.

The following steps outline collecting of register data using the segmented scan chain under single step mode:

5 (i) by programming the FPGA core 116, the debug workstation 104 may increase a particular number of registers on the chip 100 that need to be observed as well as the observation start and stop times of the particular registers;

10 (ii) during the observation start and stop time, the chip 100 may operate under the single step mode;

15 (iii) the FPGA core 116 generates the clock signal SYS_CLK, the clock signal DIAG_CLK and select signals DIAG_SEL10 and DIAG_SEL11 (which may be multi-bit or single bit signals) to control which scan segments need to be accessed;

(iv) under the single step mode, after each effective edge of the system clock SYS_CLK, the data in the selected scan segments SCAN_SEG0-SCAN_SEGX may be shifted to the FPGA core 116, then shifted back to the selected scan segment SCAN_SEG0-SCAN_SEGX, and then the clock signal SYS_CLK may resume; and

00-255
1496.00039

(v) only the data from the registers that needs to be monitored may be stored and compressed. The I/O interface may then transfer the data to the debugging workstation 104.

Referring to FIG. 5, one or more chip I/O pins 200a-200n are shown connected to the FPGA core 116. Such a connection can allow the FPGA core 116 to monitor the I/O of the chip 102. In addition, one of the I/O pins 200a-200n can be connected as an input pin to the FPGA core 116. An internal module from the FPGA core 116 may generate a signal to drive the chip during the chip debugging. With a system on chip design, the signals among different blocks can also be connected through the FPGA core 116. Additionally, the FPGA core 116 can bridge signals between different modules 202a-202n. Such bridging can help in debugging of different modules. Such bridging can also help in isolating problems.

For those modules 202a-202n that are sensitive to the clock frequency, such as the refresh control block in an DRAM/SRAM interface (not shown), the FPGA core 116 can keep these modules running at normal clock speed. However, special attention needs to be paid during the design phase, to make the whole system work

00-255
1496.00039

normally while the system clock is slowed down during the step running mode.

Computer Aided Design (CAD) software may also need to be developed for the debugging workstation 104. The debug workstation 104 can be developed to work together with the on-chip FPGA core 116. The functions of the debug workstation include one or more of the following:

- (i) programing the FPGA core to implement user required functions,
- (ii) collecting data from the FPGA core though the I/O interface, and
- (iii) offering an end user interface to the debugging engineer.

One function of such software may be to offer an easy to use interface to the user.

Referring to FIG. 6, a work flow (or system) 300 of an example software is shown. The software will read in the probe name file, in which all the signals that can be probed are logged. The netlist file and the RTL codes of the design are read. All the registers on different scan segments are mapped to the netlist and related to the RTL codes. In this way, the user can easily decide

00-255
1496.00039

which signals need to be observed during the debugging period. While the chip 102 is running at normal speed, the software can display any of the internal signals that are connected to the I/O of the FPGA core 116. While the chip 102 is running at single step mode, the software can display all the signals on the chip 102. This is because under single step mode, the FPGA core 116 can be programmed to access any of the on-chip registers. All the combinational signals can be derived from the related register values and the netlist information. By using such software, users can also program the FPGA core 116 to implement different debugging functions. The debugging workstation 104 and the CAD software can be reused in different projects, resulting in reduction of cost.

The function performed by the system 300 of FIG. 6 may be implemented using a conventional general purpose digital computer programmed according to the teachings of the present specification, as will be apparent to those skilled in the relevant art(s). Appropriate software coding can readily be prepared by skilled programmers based on the teachings of the present disclosure, as will also be apparent to those skilled in the relevant art(s).

The present invention may also be implemented by the preparation of ASICs, FPGAs, or by interconnecting an appropriate

00-255
1496.00039

network of conventional component circuits, as is described herein, modifications of which will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art(s).

5 The present invention thus may also include a computer product which may be a storage medium including instructions which can be used to program a computer to perform a process in accordance with the present invention. The storage medium can include, but is not limited to, any type of disk including floppy disk, optical disk, CD-ROM, and magneto-optical disks, ROMs, RAMs, 10 EPROMs, EEPROMs, Flash memory, magnetic or optical cards, or any type of media suitable for storing electronic instructions.

15 With the on-chip programming capability of the FPGA core 116 and the debugging software, many new features can be implemented without increasing the cost in diagnostics. Such may include one or more of the following:

- (i) programing the FPGA core 116 to dump the host register every N clock cycles,
- (ii) capturing signals every N clock cycles,
- (iii) dynamically changing the host register values,
- 20 (iv) single step tracing, counters and pointers monitoring,

(v) searching for a specific signal pattern,

(vi) tracing an internal state machine triggered on a
programmed condition,

(vii) monitoring the correctness of a bus protocol,

5 and/or

(viii) implementing statistics counting to measure the
performance (e.g., the active time on bus request, the execution
coverage of the internal state machines, etc.).

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Individual aspects described can be implemented either
alone or in combination. For example, only particularly important
signals may need to be connected to the FPGA core 116 for real time
monitoring. The present invention may provide a FPGA core in an
ASIC architecture that eases chip bring up, verification and
debugging by interconnection and programming options. The present
invention may allow important signals of a chip to be observed
while the chip is running under a normal mode by connecting the
internal signals to the FPGA core I/O. The present invention may
allow all the signals of the chip to be displayed while the chip is
running under a single step mode by allowing a FPGA core to control
the chip.

00-255
1496.00039

By programming the FPGA core 116, many debugging features can be supported, such as one or more of the following:

(i) programmed triggering and tracing based on internal signals (e.g., tracing the internal state machines, pointers, counters, etc.)

(ii) triggering on the specific values of address, data, or command bus;

(iii) dynamically changing the host register values; and/or

(iv) complex monitoring functions (e.g., protocol monitoring). Additionally, the system 100 may reduce chip debugging/verification time and product time to market.

The FPGA core 116 may simultaneously probe multiple internal signals. By utilizing the scan chain under the single step mode and with the on-chip FPGA core 116 acting as the data process center, all the signals on the chip 102 can be observed. The FPGA core 116 can be used to bridge the signals between different modules, and the under test mode, to isolate a specific module and drive signals to test the specific module. The FPGA core 116 can also be used to add or verify bug fixes. The process of the debugging workstation 104 working with the on-chip FPGA core

00-255
1496.00039

116 to generate many powerful debugging features may also be implemented.

The system 100 may provide functionality of a CAD software that may be implemented to work with the diagnostics design. The system 100 may allow for enhanced debugging capabilities with the diagnostics design, such as searching for a specific signal pattern, tracing the internal state machine and/or triggering on a programmed condition. The system 100 may provide on the fly monitoring of the correctness of the bus protocol, doing statistics counting to measure the performance and/or testing coverage.

While the invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to the preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes in form and details may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

CLAIMS

1. A system for designing an integrated circuit (IC) comprising:

a circuit comprising (i) a functional portion and (ii) a logic portion connected to said functional portion and configured to detect, fix or verify fixes of errors in said function portion.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said logic portion includes one or more interfaces, and said system further comprises:

a debugging/bug fix circuit configured to detect errors in said logic portion through said one or more interfaces.

3. The system according to claim 1, wherein said system comprises a diagnostic architecture using an FPGA core in a system on a chip design.

4. The system according to claim 2, wherein said system is further configured to (i) provide ease in bringing up, (ii) verification and (iii) debugging, each by interconnecting said circuit and said debugging/bug fix circuit.

00-255
1496.00039

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein said system is further configured to provide one or more programming options of said circuit.

6. The system according to claim 2, wherein said system is further configured to allow observation of one or more signals by said debugging/bug fix circuit.

7. The system according to claim 6, wherein said system is further configured to allow observation of said one or more signals when running in a normal mode.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein said system is further configured to run in a single step mode.

9. The system according to claim 8, wherein said system is further configured to run in said single step mode when controlled by a gate or a core.

10. The system according to claim 9, wherein said core comprises said FPGA core.

00-255
1496.00039

11. The system according to claim 9, wherein said core is programmable.

12. The system according to claim 2, wherein said debugging/bug fix circuit comprises a debugging workstation.

13. The system according to claim 2, wherein said debugging/bug fix circuit is further configured to allow one or more debugging features.

14. The system according to claim 13, wherein said one or more debugging features support triggering and tracing based on one or more internal signals.

15. The system according to claim 13, wherein said one or more debugging features support dynamically changing host register values.

16. The system according to claim 13, wherein said one or more debugging features provide complex monitoring functions.

18. The system according to claim 1, wherein said circuit is further configured to operate in a normal mode and a single step mode.

19. The system according to claim 18, wherein said normal mode is configured to allow said circuit to present one or more internal signals of said functional portion and said single step mode is configured to provide a plurality of signals of said functional portion.

20. The system according to claim 18, wherein a scan chain is used to diagnose or fix a bug via the logic portion.

21. The system according to claim 18, wherein the programmable portion is further configured to bridge one or more of said plurality of signals between a plurality of modules.

00-255
1496.00039

22. The system according to claim 2, wherein said debugging/bug fix circuit and said circuit are configured to generate one or more debugging features.

23. The system according to claim 2, wherein said debugging/bug fix circuit is configured to work with Computer Aided Design (CAD) software to provide one or more diagnostic functions.

24. The system according to claim 23, wherein said diagnostic functions are selected from the group consisting of searching for a specific signal pattern, tracing the internal state machine, triggering on a programmed condition and other appropriate diagnostic functions.

25. The system according to claim 23, wherein said diagnostic functions are selected from the group consisting of on the fly monitoring of a correctness of a bus protocol, and implementing statistics counting to measure the performance and the testing coverage.

00-255
1496.00039

26. A method for diagnostics comprising the steps of:

(A) interfacing a chip with a core;

(B) presenting one or more internal signals of said
chip; and

5 (C) verifying or fixing bugs in said chip with said one
or more internal signals.

27. A computer readable medium configured to store
instructions for executing the steps of claim 26.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for designing an integrated circuit (IC). The system generally comprising a circuit and a programmable portion used for diagnostics and finding bugs. The circuit generally comprises (i) a functional portion and (ii) a logic portion that may be connected to the functional portion. The logic portion generally includes one or more interfaces. The programmable portion may be configured to detect, correct and/or diagnose errors in the logic portion through the one or more interfaces.

1990-1991		1991-1992		1992-1993		1993-1994		1994-1995		1995-1996		1996-1997		1997-1998		1998-1999		1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007		2007-2008		2008-2009		2009-2010		2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-2020		2020-2021		2021-2022		2022-2023		2023-2024		2024-2025		2025-2026		2026-2027		2027-2028		2028-2029		2029-2030		2030-2031		2031-2032		2032-2033		2033-2034		2034-2035		2035-2036		2036-2037		2037-2038		2038-2039		2039-2040		2040-2041		2041-2042		2042-2043		2043-2044		2044-2045		2045-2046		2046-2047		2047-2048		2048-2049		2049-2050		2050-2051		2051-2052		2052-2053		2053-2054		2054-2055		2055-2056		2056-2057		2057-2058		2058-2059		2059-2060		2060-2061		2061-2062		2062-2063		2063-2064		2064-2065		2065-2066		2066-2067		2067-2068		2068-2069		2069-2070		2070-2071		2071-2072		2072-2073		2073-2074		2074-2075		2075-2076		2076-2077		2077-2078		2078-2079		2079-2080		2080-2081		2081-2082		2082-2083		2083-2084		2084-2085		2085-2086		2086-2087		2087-2088		2088-2089		2089-2090		2090-2091		2091-2092		2092-2093		2093-2094		2094-2095		2095-2096		2096-2097		2097-2098		2098-2099		2099-2100		2100-2101		2101-2102		2102-2103		2103-2104		2104-2105		2105-2106		2106-2107		2107-2108		2108-2109		2109-2110		2110-2111		2111-2112		2112-2113		2113-2114		2114-2115		2115-2116		2116-2117		2117-2118		2118-2119		2119-2120		2120-2121		2121-2122		2122-2123		2123-2124		2124-2125		2125-2126		2126-2127		2127-2128		2128-2129		2129-2130		2130-2131		2131-2132		2132-2133		2133-2134		2134-2135		2135-2136		2136-2137		2137-2138		2138-2139		2139-2140		2140-2141		2141-2142		2142-2143		2143-2144		2144-2145		2145-2146		2146-2147		2147-2148		2148-2149		2149-2150		2150-2151		2151-2152		2152-2153		2153-2154		2154-2155		2155-2156		2156-2157		2157-2158		2158-2159		2159-2160		2160-2161		2161-2162		2162-2163		2163-2164		2164-2165		2165-2166		2166-2167		2167-2168		2168-2169		2169-2170		2170-2171		2171-2172		2172-2173		2173-2174		2174-2175		2175-2176		2176-2177		2177-2178		2178-2179		2179-2180		2180-2181		2181-2182		2182-2183		2183-2184		2184-2185		2185-2186		2186-2187		2187-2188		2188-2189		2189-2190		2190-2191		2191-2192		2192-2193		2193-2194		2194-2195		2195-2196		2196-2197		2197-2198		2198-2199		2199-2200		2200-2201		2201-2202		2202-2203		2203-2204		2204-2205		2205-2206		2206-2207		2207-2208		2208-2209		2209-2210		2210-2211		2211-2212		2212-2213		2213-2214		2214-2215		2215-2216		2216-2217	
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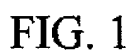


FIG. 1

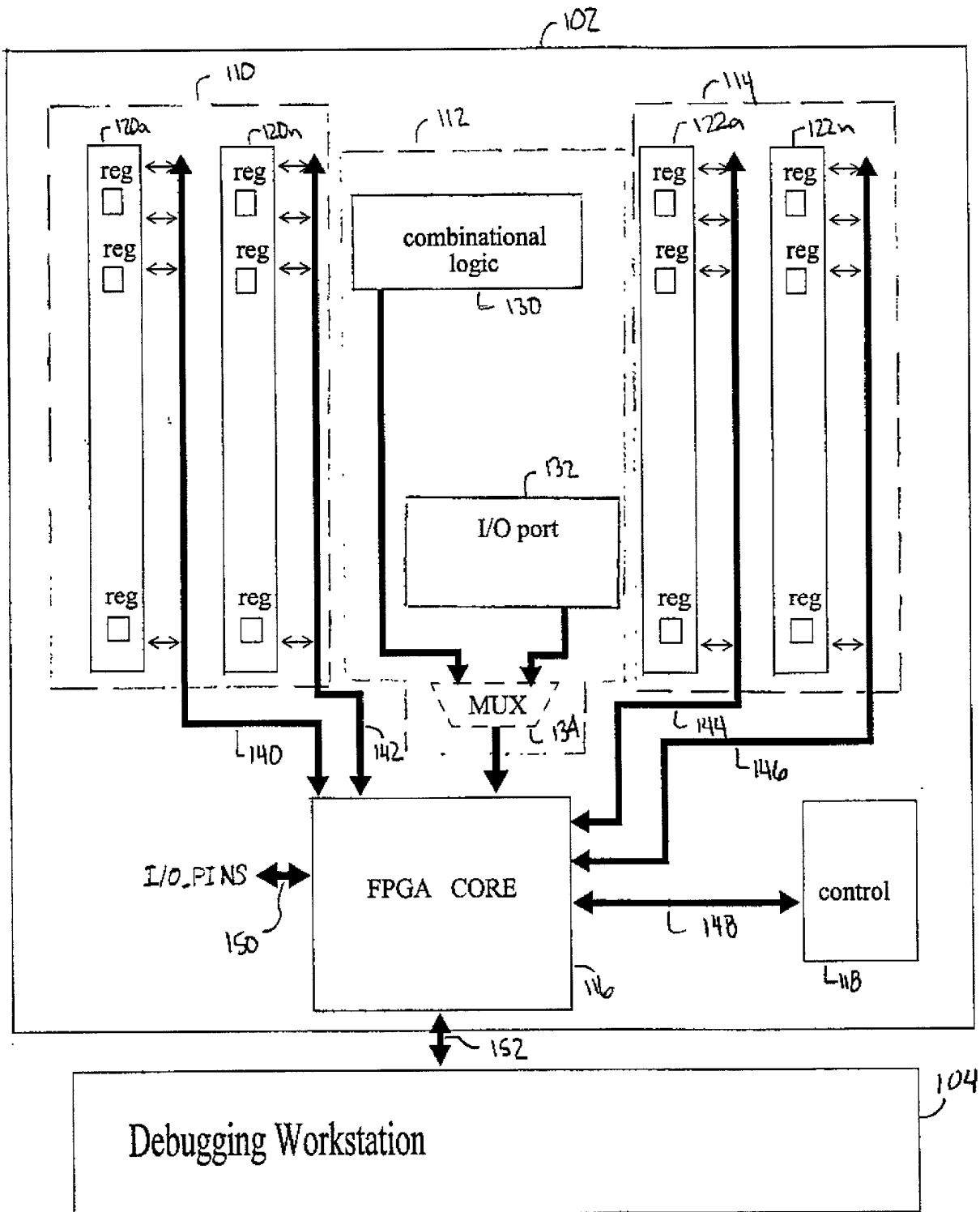


FIG. 2

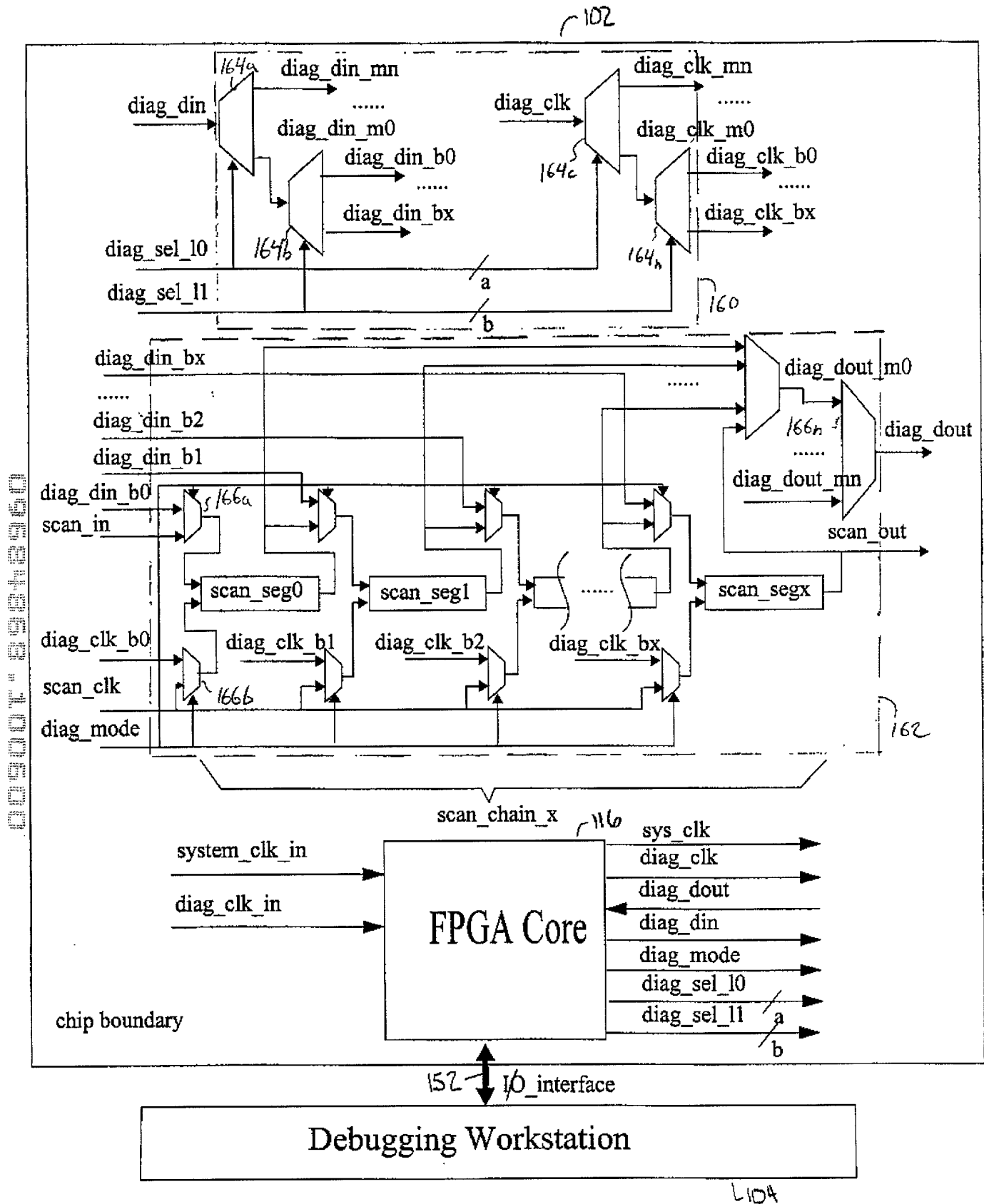


FIG. 3

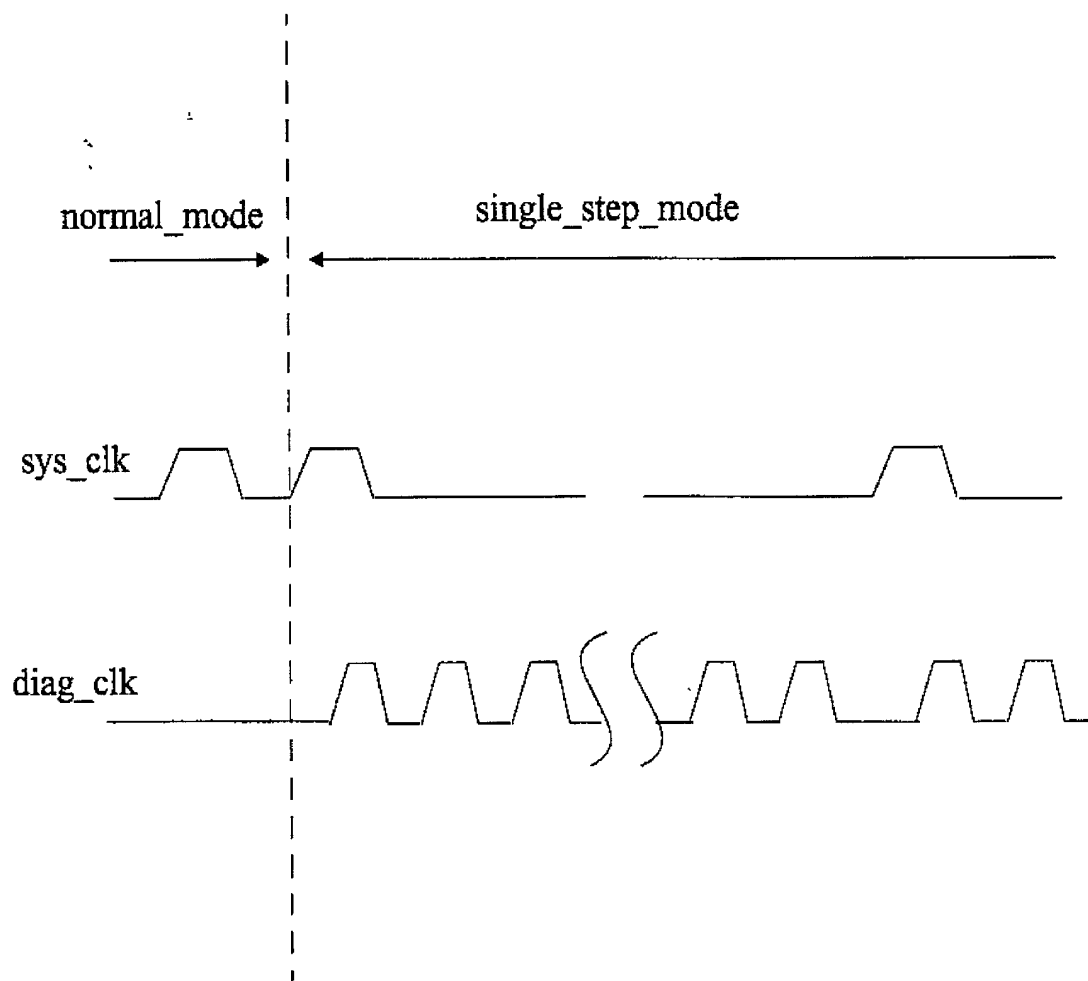


FIG. 4

300~

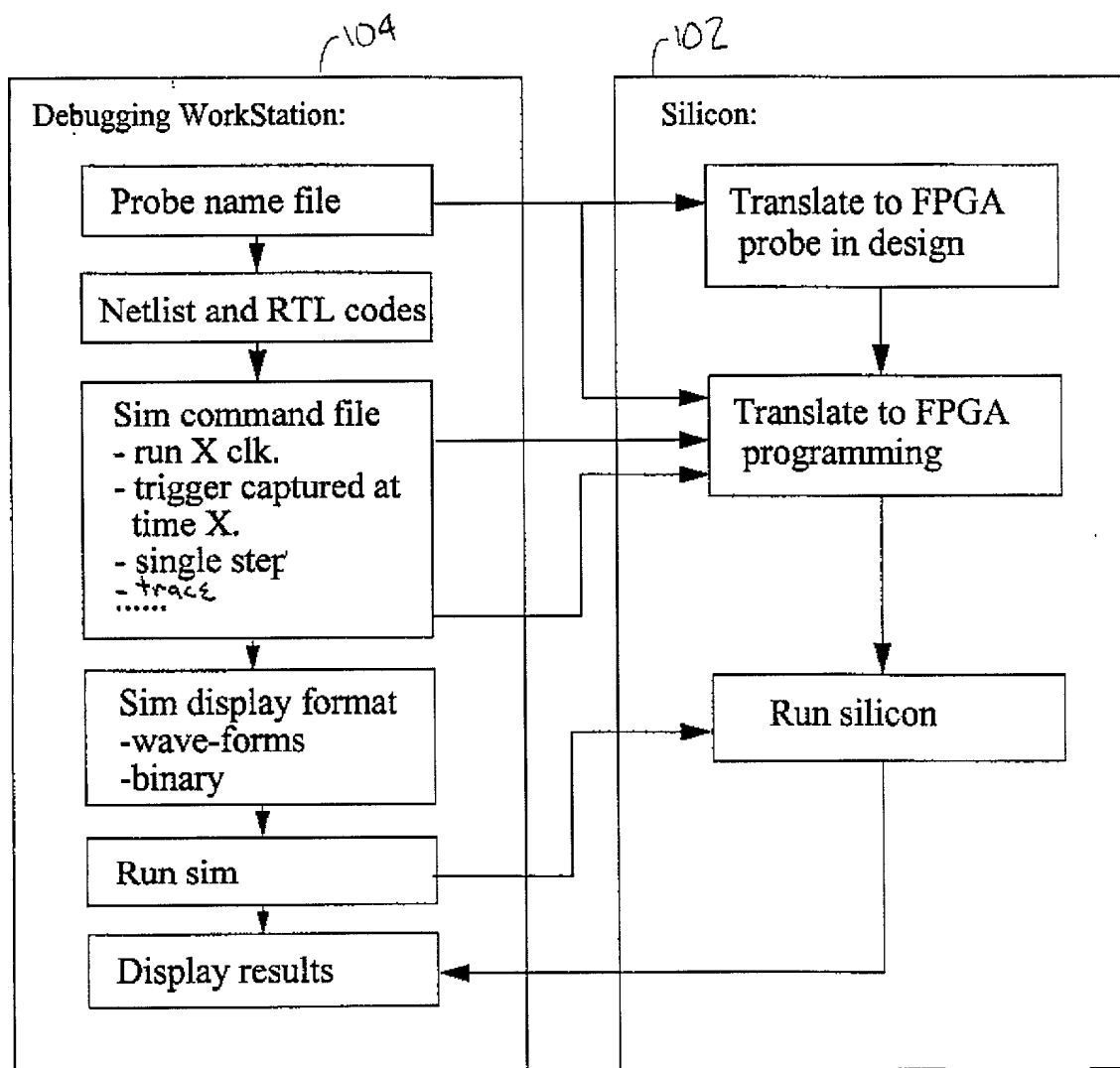


FIG. 6

Docket No. 00-255
1496.00039

DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND PETITION

We, the undersigned inventors, hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are given next to my name;

We believe that we are the first, original and joint inventors of the subject matter claimed in the application for patent entitled **"DIAGNOSTIC ARCHITECTURE USING FPGA CORE IN SYSTEM ON A CHIP DESIGN"**, which:

 X is submitted herewith;

_____ was filed on _____ as Application Serial No. _____ and amended on _____;

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application for patent (hereinafter, "this application"), including the claims;

We acknowledge the duty under Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56, to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office information known to be material to the patentability of this application. We also acknowledge that information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already provided to the United States Patent and Trademark Office and when it either

compels, by itself or in combination with other information, a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the application, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability, or

refutes or is inconsistent with a position taken in either (i) asserting an argument of patentability, or (ii) opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the United States Patent and Trademark Office;

We hereby claim the priority benefit under Title 35, Section 119(e), of the following United States provisional patent applications:

Application No.

Filing Date

We hereby claim the priority benefit under Title 35, Section 120, of the following United States patent applications:

Serial No.

Filing Date

Status

We hereby claim the priority benefit under Title 35, Section 365(c), of the following PCT International patent applications designating the United States:

Application No.

Filing Date

Where the subject matter of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the United States or PCT priority patent applications identified above, we acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to be material to the patentability of this application that became available between the filing dates of this application and of the priority United States or PCT patent applications.

We hereby appoint as our attorneys with full power of substitution to prosecute this application and conduct all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office associated with this application:

Name

Registration No.

David G. Pursel	28,659
Ralph R. Veseli	33,807
Sandeep Jaggi	43,331
Gary Edward Ross	29,431
Lloyd E. Dakin, Jr.	38,423
Christopher P. Maiorana	42,829
Robert M. Miller	42,892
Thomas W. Saur	45,075

We declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.

Zhaohui Shen

Name of First Joint Inventor



Signature of First Joint Inventor

Oct. 5, 2000

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